

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Jesus Benavides, et al.	Examiner: Chong, Yong Soo
Application No.: 10/786,810	Art Unit: 1617
Filed: February 25, 2004	
Title: Combination of a CB1 Receptor Antagonist and of a Product which Activates Dopaminergic Neurotransmission in the Brain, the Pharmaceutical Compositions Comprising Them and Their Use in the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease	

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This response is being filed pursuant to an official action on the merits of the claims of the above-referenced application that was mailed to Applicants' Attorney on July 11, 2006. Said action has a shortened statutory period for response of three (3) months resulting in an original due date for response of October 11, 2006. This response is therefore timely filed.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

As a result of Applicants' amendment and response filed on May 18, 2006, claims 3-9, 11-19, 22-28, and 30-34 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 10, 20-21, 29 and 35-36 are therefore pending. The Examiner has continued to maintain his rejection of claims 1-2, 10, 20-21, 29, 35-36 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over United States Patent No. 6,355,631 B1 to Achard et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,562,917 to Durif et al.

The Examiner continues to assert that the instant claims are directed to a combination of a CB1 antagonist azetidine derivative of formula I, specifically N-{1-[bis(4-chloro-phenyl)methyl]azetidine-3-yl}-N-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-methylsulfonamide, and levodopa. However, the Examiner continues to assert that Achard et. al. '613 also teaches a composition comprising azetidine derivatives of formula I, specifically N-{1-[bis(4-chloro-phenyl)methyl]azetidine-3-yl}-N-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-methylsulfonamide (col. 51, line 22-23) for the treatment of Parkinson's disease